

An Guntelles Keltek – Kernow

The Celtic Congress – Cornwall

Registered Charity No- 1125469

Dear One and All

We have had an interesting half year with various events. The Concert organised by Ian Curnow for St Piran's Day with a range of entertainers was a lovely evening and it was well attended. He has booked the venue, Camborne Rugby Club, for 5th March next year and is inviting an even wider range of entertainers. An evening not to be missed.

The Jenner Evening at St Columb was attended by a good many members along with other people who joined the walk around St Columb led by Mrs Bill Glanville. She explained about a lot of the history of the town and its buildings. We spent an hour looking around before we went to the Ring O' Bells for a meal. Bill has offered to take people around the outlying streets (which we never got to) on another date.



Such a lot of history in this small town!

The next occasion was when some of us went to the Congress held from Monday 22nd to Saturday 25th July. We went by airport taxi from Camborne to Bristol, a much easier way to travel – no leaving cars at the airport. The flight was on time and we were met at Cork by Sean, the treasurer of the Irish Branch, with a coach to take us to Rosscarbery. We picked up the members of the Manx branch in Cork who had travelled by plane to Dublin and then by bus (4 hours) to Cork. The trip to Rosscarbery was interesting, the hotel when we got there was very nice, the staff very welcoming and the rooms fine. We had a room over-



The Hotel



View across the bay

looking the bay, very lucky!! Some had a view of the cemetery behind the hotel!

The lectures on Tuesday and Thursday were all varied and interesting. Unfortunately the Bretons had difficulty finding a speaker, but Yann Guillamot, (President) spoke about the situation in Brittany and answered questions. He said they do not see themselves as a nation but as a department of France so their view of the theme was very different. I hope the Irish branch print a book of lectures as these should be available to those who went and those who could not.

On Wednesday we went by coach to Baltimore and then boarded a ferry to Cape Clear Island, home of St Keiren – our St Piran. We were met and taken for a guided walk over some of the Island giving us some interesting stories – possibly all true! We visited the Heritage Centre - see Maggie Taylor's photo below (some of us got lost and didn't see this!). We then had some lunch provided by the harbour cafe which was very good, they had also provided us with coffee and cakes on our arrival.

The ecumenical service was held in the graveyard of St Kieran's church, I don't think we were allowed inside the building. We had lovely weather that day and some people were sun-burnt. Not what we expected!! On the return trip we had dolphins following the ferry so the skipper circled the boat around so that all could see them!



The Heritage Centre with picture commemorating the visit of the Cornish



Overlooking the harbour



The Harbour

On Friday afternoon following the AGM there was a coach trip to see Dun Beag Stone Circle and on to Skibbereen where we had hoped to visit the Heritage Centre, but there was another tour going around so we went into the town and had a look around and a tea. The town was hosting a commemoration of O'Donovan Rossa 1831 - 1913, a Cork Fenian. Many shops had artefacts from the museum in their windows, some of the shopkeepers and townspeople were dressed in clothes from these times.

The cost of the week was expensive but the hotel and excursions were well worth it. Jean Charman's talk on behalf of Cornwall was very interesting, covering many aspects of Cornish history and up to date information on how things are now. Hazel Curnow did us proud with her singing, accompanied by Ian Curnow. We thank them all for attending for the week. Other photos will be on our display boards.

INTERNATIONAL CELTIC CONGRESS 2016

The next Congress will be held in Douglas, Isle of Man. The dates are from Thursday 31st March to Tuesday 5th April. The venue is the Empress Hotel, Central Promenade. Douglas. The theme will be: 'The Inclusion of Celtic History and Culture in the School Curriculum.'

The cost of the week is: 5 nights - single £500; double £800. 4 nights - single £420; double £630.

Jerry is investigating the costs for getting there, either train and ferry or train and air. If you are intending to go the deposit of £50 has to be paid by **30th November**. The idea of holding it over a long weekend is a) to avoid the commemoration of the Easter Uprising in Ireland and b) to enable people to attend and then return to work either on the Sunday or Monday. Monday is to be an excursion day. You can download your form from celticcongressmannin.com or contact me and I will send one. Let me know if you wish to attend. **Please do not send money to the Manx branch but to Jerry Rogers, treasurer, 17 Chiltern Road, Sandhurst, Berkshire, GU47 8NB**

At the last committee meeting it was agreed that the next two open meetings will be held in the Lowenac Hotel on Saturday 24 October and Saturday 12 December (with a Christmas lunch), both starting at 10.30am.

I think that is all for now.

Gans Gorhemmyadow an Gwella

Denise Chubb
Secretary.